

18 Jan 2015: Preached by Preacher Clement Chew

Topic: **“Rubber Stamp” Prayers!**

Scripture Text: Judges 20: 18-28

1. “Rubber Stamp” prayers are when we want God to do things in our own ways and according to our own will. This is a wrong approach to prayer. We should be passionate in our prayers but it must always be prayed according to God’s will.

2. In Judges 20, the “Rubber Stamp” prayer was based on gross stubbornness and folly. Israel only wanted to do that which was right in his own eyes. They wanted to punish Gibeah, a city of Benjamin, which abused the concubine of a Levite. The Levite actually cut her dead body in 12 pieces to send to the 12 tribes of Israel. Israel did not even find out the truth but was emotionally charged up to want to punish the city of Gibeah.

3. “Rubber Stamp” prayer is also prayer of gross hypocrisy. Though Israel seemed to ask God if they should fight Benjamin or not, they had already decided to do it. They wanted their own way. God let them do what they wanted in His permissive and punitive will but they had to bear the consequences.

4. “Rubber Stamp” prayer will result in gross vanity. The Israelites had to face the consequences of their action. It is best for us to learn to submit to God’s will and to pray that we will follow the will of God. Then we truly enjoy true spiritual blessings from God in answering our prayers.